

# Environmental Justice Forum

*Purpose: to advance collaborative efforts made by EPA Region 6 and its state, tribal and local partners working together with regulated entities and our communities to improve air, land and water where people live, work and play.*

## Day and ½ (90 minute presentations)

11:00 am to 1:00 pm Registration

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Opening Remarks, Introductions, Remarks by the RA

1:30 – 3:00 **ODEQ/Quapaw**

Presentation: Tar Creek; History of how tribe started doing own clean up; state saw tribe had capacity; state co-lead with tribe @Superfund site; cooperative agreement signed by governor; established process; thought outside the box; worked well together.

Presenters: Trevor Hammons (?) ODEQ  
Rebecca Jim, Executive Director, Local Environmental Action Demanded (L.E.A.D) Agency  
EPA

3:00 -3:15 Break

3:15 – 4:45 **ADEQ**

Presentation: City of Blytheville (Condemned Homes/Asbestos)

City of Blytheville Mayor to be a part of presentation and Demetria Kimbrough, Enforcement/Asbestos Branch Manager will be speaking for ADEQ

Asbestos is naturally occurring material that was used to strengthen many manufactured products, mostly in building materials. Though not so common today, asbestos still is used and is found in many older structures across the United States. In Arkansas, many cities and towns are having to develop a plan to resolve with the issue of dilapidated residential and commercial structures in their communities that were constructed with possible asbestos containing materials. The City of Blytheville is one of the many Arkansas cities with this issue. They have over 200 condemned and dilapidated structures, primary residential, in Blytheville that needed a plan. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, along with Blytheville Mayor Mr. James Sanders, will present information on the issue, the possible solutions, and the path forward to a successful solution for the City of Blytheville.

Presenters: Demetria Kimbrough, ADEQ  
Mayor James Sanders, Blytheville

4:45 -5:00                      Announcements/ End-of-Day Wrap up

## Day 2

8:00 am to 8:30 am              Registration

8:30 – 8:45                      Welcome/ Summary of Day One, Look ahead for Day 2

8:45- 10:15                      **NMED**

### Presentation: The Merger of Small Water Systems in Rural NM

Consolidation of 5 water systems (now 10) into one mutual domestic water consumer association as an umbrella association with membership from individual systems in order to apply for and administer regional funding. Merger of systems allowed for shared resources (operators, consultants, attorneys, etc.) to reduce costs and increase knowledge base. Looked at issues such as treatment of naturally exceeding arsenic, gaining legislative support, performing Joint infrastructure capital improvements plan, etc.

Presenters: Kathryn Becker – NMED  
Steven Deal – NMED Engineer from the Construction Program Bureau  
Karen Nichols, Project Manager for the Lower Rio Grande Public Water Works Authority

10:15 – 10:30                      Break

10:30 – 12:00                      Presentation (Community breakout, roundtable, training opportunity, etc.)

Wilma Subra – LEAN – Air Emissions 337-367-2216  
Richard Moore – Los Jardines Institute, NEJAC Chair – Chemical Safety-  
505-301-0276  
Bekyah Nelson – Air Alliance – Water  
Kelly Harrigan - Texas Law Clinic – Harbor Bridge, Corpus Christi

Community members present on how EPA can best serve them in areas identified in the Strategic Plan. Possible topics include reducing lead contamination, chemical safety, Superfund Site expedited clean-up; modernization/updating of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructures.

12N -1:15 pm                      Lunch

1:15- 2:45                          **TCEQ**

Presentation:

Hurricane Harvey response; enviros has access to TCEQ/EPA;  
listening/response/state/local authorities; lessons learned.

Presenters:

Kelly Cook, Division Director, Critical Infrastructure Division, TCEQ  
Mr. Hilton Kelley, Director, Community In Power and Development Association  
(CIDA)  
Ronnie Crossland, EPA

2:45 – 3:00

Break

3:00 -4:30

**LDEQ**

Presentation: St. Rose

Saint Rose (St. Rose) located on the East Bank of the Mississippi River in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, has a population of 6,540 residents, and is part of the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan area. In 2014, the local group St. Rose Community One Voice and other environmental advocates initiated H2S odor complaints surrounding the International-Matex Tank Terminal (IMTT) facility and Shell Refinery. As a result of the complaints, EPA and LDEQ performed several monitoring events. The refinery agreed to no longer process a crude believed to cause the odor and IMTT installed a secondary control system on a regenerative thermal oxidizer.

Presenters –  
LDEQ -

Mr. Keith Adams, President, St. Rose community One Voice

4:30 – 5:00

Closing remarks/ Wrap up

[ HYPERLINK "<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/epa-region-6-environmental-justice-forum-tickets-43477769178>" \t "\_blank" ]